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Group Art Unit: 2814

REMARKS

Restriction/Election

Applicants have elected claims 1-10, and respectfully submit for the record that the Restriction election was with traverse and without waiving any rights for reconsideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claims 4 and 9, Applicant has currently amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 4, which has been cancelled, and currently amended claim 6 to incorporate the limitations of claim 9, which has been cancelled.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the Title of the invention for not being descriptive and required a new title that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The Title has been amended as indicated above. It is respectfully submitted that this objection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ku et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,677,663, hereinafter "Ku").

With respect to claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 10, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) is moot in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 6 and in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

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Claims 1, 5-7, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Crowley et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,753,597, hereinafter "Crowley").

With respect to claims 1, 5-7 and 10, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) is moot in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 6 and in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crowley.

With respect to claims 2 and 7, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is moot in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 6 and in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 7 are now unobvious over Crowley in view of the Official Notice, taken either singularly or in combination.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the now amended independent claims 1 and 6, and the respective claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 10 depending therefrom, are no longer anticipated by Ku and Crowley taken either singularly under 35 USC §102 nor obvious in combination under 35 USC §103 with the other cited references.


In view of the above, it is submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 1-3, 5-8, and 10 at an early date is solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this

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paper, including any extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0374 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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